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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 04 SINGAPORE 000743

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SUBJECT: SINGAPORE'S SUBMISSION FOR THE FIFTH ANNUAL TIP  
REPORT PART III

REF: A. SINGAPORE 742

[B](#). SINGAPORE 657

[C](#). 04 STATE 273089

[1](#)1. (U) This is the third of four messages relaying Embassy Singapore's 2005 TIP submission. It details all the sources Emboffs used in compiling the submission.

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Diplomatic Representatives  
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[1](#)2. (SBU/NF) Embassy maintains contact with consular, labor and other officials of embassies that represent the major source countries for foreign laborers and sex workers. Note: Foreign domestic workers come almost exclusively from Indonesia, the Philippines, or Sri Lanka.

-- Bangladesh

Mokammel Hossain, First Secretary, Labor Attache

-- China

He Xiaoming, First Secretary (economic and commercial)

Liu Minqiang, Third Secretary, (economic and commercial)

Xiang Shan, First Secretary (consular)

Wei Ning, Consular Section Chief

-- India

Sanjiv Kumar, First Secretary (consular)

-- Indonesia

Fachry Sulaiman, Second Secretary (consular and protocol)

-- Malaysia

Westmoreland Palon, Second Secretary (political)

-- Philippines

Crescente Relacion, First Secretary (consular)

Maria Lumen B. Isleta, First Secretary (consular)

Merriam Cuasay, Labor Attache

-- Sri Lanka

M R Gunaratna, Minister-Counselor

-- Thailand

Somthawee Kopatthanasilp, Minister Counselor (labor)

Kesanee Palanuwigse (consular/political)

-- Vietnam

Nguyen Van Quyen, First Secretary (consular)

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NGOs, Civil Society, and International Organizations  
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[1](#)3. (SBU/NF) Emboffs also met routinely with NGO representatives that deal with foreign worker and trafficking-related issues.

-- Transient Workers Count Too (TWC2, formerly The Working Committee 2) is a civil society group formed in 2002 and registered as a society in 2004 to lobby for improved working conditions for Singapore's roughly 150,000 foreign domestic workers (FDWs).

Braema Mathi, Chairperson

Constance Singam, Member

-- Archdiocesan Commission for Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People (CMI) runs a shelter to assist TIP victims and other foreign laborers (including FDWs) in need. CMI provides frequent assistance to foreign workers with labor disputes, e.g., over back wages, interceding with employers and/or the Ministry of Manpower.

-- Humanitarian Organization for Migration Economics (HOME) is run by a former employee of CMI, it runs two shelters for migrant workers, and frequently provides assistance in the form of support or advocacy in labor disputes. Occasionally accepts TIP victims referred by the police for shelter.

Bridget Lew, Chairperson

-- Association of Women for Action and Research (AWARE) is not focused on trafficking as an organization, but some of its individual members and participating organizations deal with TIP issues.

Braema Mathi, founder

Tisa Ng, President

Sara Dean, Chairperson, Sub-committee on Safety

-- Action For Aids (AFA), an NGO devoted to advocacy and patient care, has been given a grant through the Department of STD Control to interact with streetwalkers. AFA volunteers build relationships with street-based prostitutes, distribute materials about condoms and sexually transmitted diseases in a variety of languages, and distribute condoms.

Benedict Jacob-Thambiah, Executive Director

Brenton Wong, Vice President

-- One Hope Center, a new NGO devoted to assisting women who wish to escape prostitution, provides shelter, counseling, liaises with law enforcement and helps women return to their country of origin. It hopes to open its own shelter and service center in the near future with the assistance of the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports.

Reverend Dr. Edward Job, President

-- UNIFEM does not deal with trafficking victims in Singapore, but does work with victims and NGOs in Batam, Indonesia, a destination for Singaporeans traveling independently for sex tourism. It is also involved in public outreach programs in Singapore calling attention to the plight of victims, particularly children, of sex tourism.

Saleemah Ismail, Anti-Trafficking Coordinator

Melissa Kwee, President

-- The Good Shepherd Center is one of the shelters to which the Ministry for Community Development, Youth, and Sports (MCYS) refers victims in need of assistance.

Sister Agnes, Director

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Researchers and Observers  
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14. (SBU/NF) Singapore's "authorized" brothel industry is well-researched by the government officials, academics and observers with whom we met; the same persons also study the other parts of the industry (streetwalkers, lounge hostesses, etc.), although with less comprehensive information.

Dr. Wong Mee Lian (protect) is a professor in the Department of Occupational Health and Family Medicine at the National University of Singapore. Since the early 1990s, she has instructed Singapore's sex workers on negotiating condom use and other safe sex practices. She has conducted scholarly studies based on hundreds of interviews with both sex workers and clients, to whom she has good access. Dr. Wong manages a database in which all registered sex workers dating back to 1990 are listed with pertinent identifying information such as age.

Dr. Roy Chan (protect) is the Director of Singapore's Department of STD Control and (in his off time) head of the NGO Action for AIDS. His clinic conducts the medical exams and tests on brothel employees. Action for AIDS promotes safe sex among the workers both in the tolerated and freelance brothels.

Dr. Ganapathy Narayanan (protect) is a professor of sociology at the National University of Singapore specializing in

deviance and social control. He is very familiar with the history of prostitution in Singapore and how the trade is regulated in other countries.

Sharon Wee is a former student of Dr. Wong who wrote her Masters thesis on the clients of sex workers. She participated in numerous programs with Dr. Wong and worked directly with both sex workers and their clients in the course of her research.

Daniel Tung (protect) is a researcher and project coordinator at the Department of STD Control, who has worked the past three years on a project monitoring trends among streetwalkers in Singapore and encouraging women to use condoms and get regular health checks.

Salma Khalik (protect) is a health correspondent at the Straits Times who was involved in writing a recent series of articles that highlighted the rising rates of AIDs and other sexually transmitted diseases and the link to both prostitution and sex tourism.

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Government Officials  
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15. (SBU) The Embassy interacts with several government agencies on trafficking-related issues.

Ministry of Home Affairs  
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-- MHA includes all Singapore's law enforcement agencies, including the police and immigration officials. The MHA provided details of anti-vice operations, information on the detained sex workers, and other statistics relevant to anti-vice operations. The Ministry also has information on specific cases, including charges against vice abettors and pimps.

Ho Peng Kee, Senior Minister of State for Home Affairs

Tony Soh, Director, Policy and Operations

Lim Chin Tiak, Assistant Director, Criminal Investigation Division

Pauline Sim, Assistant Director, Security Section, Policy and Operations

Tan Pang Tong, Head, Anti-Vice Branch, Criminal Investigation Division

Ministry of Manpower  
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-- MOM handles all issues relevant to foreign workers in Singapore, including maid abuse cases, wage claims, and complaints about working conditions. The Foreign Manpower Management Division was established in August 2003, concentrating and expanding the staff dealing with foreign worker issues; one mandate is to consider and implement new policy initiatives aimed at safeguarding foreign workers.

Ho Siong Hin, Director, Foreign Manpower Management Division

Ng Cher Pong, Director, Foreign Manpower Management Division (Policy)

Kenneth Yap, Head, International Relations Unit

Toh Swee Chien, Manager, International Relations Unit

Attorney General's Chambers  
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-- AGC officials can provide information on specific prosecutions, i.e. the statutes under which traffickers and vice abettors are charged. They can also address the state of inter-agency deliberations on international agreements Singapore is considering signing. The AGC also provide centralized legal support for Singapore's government, from drafting of new laws to negotiation and adherence to international agreements.

Jaswant Singh, Deputy Public Prosecutor and Directorate Leader, Trial Litigation 1B Directorate  
Marcus Song, State Counsel, International Affairs Division  
Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports  
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-- MCYS handles all aspects of victims, assistance. The Ministry places victims either in Government-run facilities, in shelters run by foreign embassies, or in shelters run by

NGOs and church groups.

Ang Bee Lian, Director, Rehabilitation and Protection Division

Corinne Koh, Deputy Director, Family and Child Protection and Welfare Branch

Marie Yeo, Assistant Director, Programmes Development Section, Family and Child Protection and Welfare Branch

Grace Cheong, Senior Policy Officer, Policy and Development Branch

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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-- Though the MFA does not itself possess information needed to compile the TIP report, we channel requests for such information through Directorate II. MFA also is involved in Singapore's participation in international meetings and relevant international agreements.

Mr. Chin Hock Seng, Director, Policy, Planning and Analysis, Directorate II (Chaired the Singapore Government roundtable with Mark Taylor.)

Mr. Alvin Lim, Deputy Director, North America, Policy, Planning and Analysis, Directorate II

Ms. Vanessa Chan, Assistant Director, Specialized Agencies and Multilateral Issues Section, International Organization Directorate

Mr. Lee Chong Hock, Country Officer, North America, Policy, Planning and Analysis, Directorate II

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